

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A sleeve loaded with at least one therapeutic drug for the eventual release thereof at a treatment site within a body lumen, comprising:

a prefabricated patterned tubular sleeve portion having independent drug-loaded elements, the patterned tubular sleeve portion being releasably attached to an outer surface of a stent structure in an unexpanded condition, the stent structure having a longitudinal axis and a transverse cross-section defining a circumference, at least a portion of the patterned tubular sleeve portion being decoupled from the outer surface of the stent structure when the stent structure is in an expanded condition so that the independent drug-loaded elements are held against the body lumen by at least a portion of the patterned tubular sleeve portion, wherein the independent drug-loaded elements are positioned longitudinally across the outer surface of the stent structure and spaced apart from each other over the circumference, and wherein the patterned tubular sleeve portion is configured as a wave pattern.

2. (original) The sleeve of claim 1, wherein the patterned tubular sleeve portion is fabricated from a polymeric material.

3. (withdrawn) The sleeve of claim 1, wherein the patterned tubular sleeve portion is fabricated from a metallic material.

4. (original) The sleeve of claim 1, wherein the patterned tubular sleeve portion includes a plurality of depots.

5. (withdrawn and currently amended) The sleeve of claim [[3]] 1, wherein the patterned tubular sleeve portion includes a plurality of longitudinal channels.

6. (currently amended) ~~The sleeve of claim 1,~~ A sleeve loaded with at least one therapeutic drug for the eventual release thereof at a treatment site within a body lumen, comprising:

a prefabricated patterned tubular sleeve portion having independent drug-loaded elements, the patterned tubular sleeve portion being releasably attached to an outer surface of a stent structure in an unexpanded condition, at least a portion of the patterned tubular sleeve portion being decoupled from the outer surface of the stent structure when the stent structure is in an expanded condition so that the independent drug-loaded elements are held against the body lumen by at least a portion of the patterned tubular sleeve portion, wherein the sleeve is not stretched when the stent structure expands from the unexpanded condition to the expanded condition, and

wherein the patterned tubular sleeve portion is configured as a wave pattern.

7. (canceled).

8. (canceled).

9. (previously presented) The sleeve of claim 1, wherein upon expansion of the stent structure, the patterned tubular sleeve portion completely releases from the outer surface of the stent structure.

10. (previously presented) The sleeve of claim 1, wherein upon expansion of the stent structure, the patterned tubular sleeve portion has an opening in the range from about 0.1 mm² to about 4.0 mm² in area.

11. (previously presented) The sleeve of claim 1, wherein upon expansion of the stent structure, the patterned tubular sleeve portion has an opening in the range from about 0.3 mm to about 2.0 mm in length.

12. (original) The sleeve of claim 1, wherein the patterned tubular sleeve portion includes a pattern of struts interconnected to form the sleeve for contacting at least a portion of the walls of the body lumen.

13. (original) The sleeve of claim 12, wherein the struts have a radial thickness in the range from about 10 nanometers to about 10 micrometers.

14. (original) The sleeve of claim 12, wherein the struts have a width in the range from about 100 nanometers to about 100 micrometers.

15. (original) The sleeve of claim 1, wherein the patterned tubular sleeve portion has an elastic modulus in the range from about 0.05 megapascals to about 30.00 megapascals.

16. (original) The sleeve of claim 1, wherein the patterned tubular sleeve portion has a drug loading capacity in the range from about 0.1 micrograms to about 100 milligrams of therapeutic drug or agent.

17-25. (canceled).

26. (previously presented) The sleeve of claim 1, wherein each of the independent drug-loaded elements is releasably adhered to the outer surface of the stent structure in the unexpanded condition.

27. (canceled).

28. (previously presented) The sleeve of claim 1, wherein the independent drug-loaded elements extend in a circumferential direction about the circumference of the stent structure and extend in a longitudinal direction to a greater extent than in the circumferential direction.

29. (previously presented) The sleeve of claim 1, wherein after the stent structure expands from the unexpanded condition to the expanded condition, the independent drug-loaded elements are separated by gaps extending in a circumferential direction about the circumference of the stent structure and extending in a longitudinal direction to a greater extent than in the circumferential direction.

30. (previously presented) The sleeve of claim 1, wherein the independent drug-loaded elements are not connected to each other after the stent structure expands from the unexpanded condition to the expanded condition.

31. (previously presented) The sleeve of claim 1, wherein the stent structure includes a plurality of radially expandable cylindrical rings and each of the independent drug-loaded elements are positioned longitudinally across the plurality of cylindrical rings.

32. (previously presented) The sleeve of claim 31, wherein at least one of the plurality of radially expandable cylindrical rings supports each of the independent drug-loaded elements.